

What is claimed is:

1. A bidirectional slide lock comprising:
an elongated first clip having a first longitudinal axis, a first pawl, a second pawl, and a
5 pair of first clip flanges;
an elongated second clip having a second longitudinal axis, a first pawl stop, a second pawl
stop, and a pair of second clip flanges;
the first and second clip flanges retentively engaging one another to hold the first and
second clips together to prevent movement away from one another;
10 the first and second pawls retentively engaging the first and second pawl stops, respectively
to hold the first and second clips against longitudinal movement relative to one
another along the first and second longitudinal axes; and
first and second springs biasing the first and second pawls, respectively toward the second
clip so as to retain the first and second pawls in retentive engagement with the first
15 and second pawl stops, respectively.
2. The bidirectional slide lock of claim 1 further comprising a first screw and a first
hole within the first clip to receive the first screw.
- 20 3. The bidirectional slide lock of claim 2 further comprising a door surface adapted to
receive the first screw.
4. The bidirectional slide lock of claim 3 further comprising a leg adapted to extend
into the door surface.
- 25 5. The bidirectional slide lock of claim 4 wherein the leg is attached to the first clip.
6. The bidirectional slide lock of claim 1 further comprising a second screw and a
second hole within the second clip to receive the second screw.
- 30 7. The bidirectional slide lock of claim 6 further comprising a handle surface adapted
to receive the second screw.
8. The bidirectional slide lock of claim 1 wherein each of the the first clip flange is an
35 inwardly curved arc.

9. The bidirectional slide lock of claim 8 wherein the second clip flange has a lip that engages the inwardly curved arc.

10. A bidirectional slide lock for attaching first and second members together

5 comprising:

an elongated first clip having a first longitudinal axis and being attached to the first member, the first clip having a pair of first clip flanges and a pair of pawls, the pair of pawls each having a pawl end, the pawl ends of the pair of pawls facing in opposite directions away from one another;

10 an elongated second clip having a second longitudinal axis and being attached to the second member, the second clip having a pair of second clip flanges and a pair of pawl stops, each of the pair of pawl stops facing in opposite directions toward one another;

the first clip flanges and the second clip flanges retentively engaging one another to hold

15 the first clip against movement away from the second clip; and

each of the pawl ends of the pair of pawls retentively engaging one of the pair of pawl stops so as to prevent longitudinal movement of the first and second clips relative to one another along the first and second longitudinal axes, whereby the first and second clips hold the first and second members together against movement relative

20 to one another.

11. The bidirectional slide lock according to claim 10 wherein the pair of pawls are each biased toward the second clip by a spring.

25 12. The bidirectional slide lock according to claim 11 wherein the spring biasing each of the pair of pawls comprises a spring arm on which each of the pawls is mounted.

13. The bidirectional slide lock according to claim 10 wherein the second clip comprises an elongated strip having a pair of spaced apart holes therein, and the pair of

30 pawl stops each comprises an edge of one of the spaced apart holes.

14. The bidirectional slide lock of claim 10 further comprising a leg upon the first clip adapted to extend into the door surface.

35 15. The bidirectional slide lock of claim 14 wherein first clip is attached to the door surface by a screw.

16. The bidirectional slide lock of claim 15 wherein the first clip is attached to the door surface without the use of a receiving clip.

17. A method for joining a first member to a second member, the method comprising:

5 taking an elongated first clip having a first longitudinal axis and being attached to the first member, the first clip having a pair of first clip flanges and a pair of pawls, the pair of pawls each having a pawl end, the pawl ends of the pair of pawls facing in opposite directions away from one another;

10 taking an elongated second clip having a second longitudinal axis and being attached to the second member, the second clip having a pair of second clip flanges and a pair of pawl stops, each of the pair of pawl stops facing in opposite directions toward one another;

15 moving the first and second clips longitudinally relative to one another so that the pair of first clip flanges move into retentive engagement with the pair of second clip flanges so as to hold the first and second clips against movement toward and away from one another;

20 the moving of the first and second clips longitudinally also causing each of the pawl ends of the pair of pawls to engage one of the pawl stops of the pair of pawl stops so as to prevent further longitudinal movement of the first clip relative to the second clip, whereby the retentive engagement of the first and second clip flanges and the retentive engagement of the pair of pawl ends and the pair of pawl stops hold the first and second members against movement relative to one another.

25 18. The method according to claim 17 further comprising the step displacing one of the pawl ends of the pair of pawls from one of the pawl stops of the pair of pawl stops so as to permit longitudinal movement of the first clip relative to the second clip, whereby the longitudinal movement permits the second member to be detached from the first member.